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History Line

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To: History Coordinators
Forest Service Personnel

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The first issue of 1977 reviewed developments in Forest Service history, in the History Section and in the field. During the past year the History Section has built up quite a backlog of items relating to forest history and conservation in general. These will be included as space permits.

This issue provides information on writing history and making interviews, new plans for Gifford Pinchot's home, new writings by Forest Service retirees, recently published interviews with foresters, news about the Shelterbelt, publications about the CCC, books on conservation, forest management policy publications, and items about forest history in the South.

Tips on Writing and Interviewing.--A number of Forest Service field units are planning or in the process of writing their histories. A valuable new guide to writing such histories is Researching, Writing, and Publishing Local History, published by the American Association for State and Local History, 1315 Eighth Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37203. ($4.50 for members; $6.00 for nonmembers.) Also available from the Association (for $2.25) is a booklet of tips on conducting oral history interviews, Oral History for the Local Historical Society by Willa K. Baum of the Regional Oral History Office, Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, California. A guide for conducting history interviews by William M. Moss was published by Praeger Publishers, New York, in 1974. (109 pp., appendices, glossary, $13.50.)

Grey Towers Project.--Negotiations are being made for a contract for an architectural and historical analysis of the Gifford Pinchot estate, Grey Towers, at Milford, Pennsylvania. The Forest Service is expanding its interpretive program there and it is expected to grow into a major public use area in the future.

Guardian of the Forest, a 129-page illustrated history of the Smokey Bear program by Ellen E. Morrison, was recently published by Vantage Press, New York.

Incidentally, a memento of the flight of the original Smokey Bear cub from New Mexico to Washington is in the Smithsonian Institution Air and Space Museum. It is a piece of the fuselage of the Piper Pacer of B.F. Hines, an aviation pioneer who made the flight. He had a portrait of the little Smokey painted on the fuselage, and cut the piece out when

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the plane was wrecked by a student pilot a few years later. Hines is still working in New Mexico. A short feature about him appeared in the February 1977 issue of Flying magazine.

International Forestry.--Dr. Robert K. Winters, retired head of the Forest Service's International Forestry (IF) Staff, has initiated a project to compile a history of the Department of Agriculture's leadership in international agriculture and forestry. Cooperating are the IF Staff, the History Section, and the History Group of the Department. Assisting Winters in writing the forestry portion of the history are Forest Service retirees Ed Cliff, former Chief; Gordon Fox, former Associate Deputy Chief for Administration; and W.R. Chapline, former head of Range Research.

Dr. Winters is author of The Forest and Man, a historical review of man's use of forests. He also wrote a chapter on international forestry for the new edition of an introductory forestry textbook (see below). He contributed a brief history of international forestry to the March 1977 Journal of Forestry, and is writing a history of the Washington, D.C., Section, Society of American Foresters.

Introduction to Forestry.--A fourth edition, completely revised and enlarged, of this McGraw-Hill standard college text originally authored by Shirley Allen, retired University of Michigan forestry head who died several years ago, is now available. Clare W. Hendee, retired Forest Service Deputy Chief for Administration, and Grant W. Sharpe, professor of forest recreation, University of Washington, are co-authors with Allen. Sharpe and Hendee revised several of the old chapters, and each wrote one of the seven new chapters (Sharpe: "Forest Recreation," and Hendee: "Knowing Your Trees and Their Environments").

The book has a new chapter on "Managing Your Forest Environment," done jointly by Tom McLintock, retired head of Forest Environment Research for the Forest Service, and J.B. Hilmon, director of the Service's Southeastern Forest Experiment Station.

David Scott, University of Washington, wrote two new chapters on silviculture.

Henry H. Webster, a former Forest Service man, now chief of the Forestry Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and Robert Marty of Michigan State University, collaborated on a new chapter on the political economics of forestry.

About one-tenth of the book deals directly with forestry history. Sharpe is the author of a new text, Interpreting the Environment, just published by University of Washington Press (566 pp.).

More Interviews.--The Forest History Society has published Elwood Maunder's recent interview with Henry Clepper, veteran forestry editor and writer, under the title, Conservation and Communication: Reflections on Writing, Editing, and Publishing. It reviews Clepper's experience in writing articles and books on forestry, and his 30 years as associate editor and editor of the Journal of Forestry. His most recent book is Crusade for Conservation: The Centennial of the American Forestry Association.

DeWitt Nelson: Management of Natural Resources in California, 1925-66 is

an edited and transcribed interview of this former State Forester and Director of Natural Resources and Conservation who began his career and served 19 years with the Forest Service. Conducting the interview was Amelia Fry of the Bancroft Library's Oral History Office, University of California, Berkeley.

The Forest History Society (FHS) has completed an inventory of the records of the National Forest Products Association (formerly National Lumber Manufacturers Association), compiled by Richard C. Davis.

The Society announces a two-year drive aimed at tripling its membership to 6,000, which would allow doubling of its operating budget and expansion of other programs. It has received a $90,000 grant for this purpose from the Northwest Area Foundation of St. Paul, Minnesota. FHS was founded in 1948, in Minnesota.

Dr. Richard E. McArdle, former Chief of the Forest Service, is a new member of the Executive Board of the Society, replacing Philip L. Thornton, Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry, Forest Service. Leland J. Prater, retired FS photo librarian, who is organizing and cross-indexing on computer tape the vast collection of FS photos, has just been elected a Fellow of the Society. He reports that he is in the 1940s with his Index. After several years under contract, he is now working as a volunteer for the Forest Service.

Shelterbelt and CCC.--Two special Forest Service projects of the 1930s, the Great Plains Shelterbelt and the Civilian Conservation Corps, are attracting much attention again these days.

The Great Plains Agricultural Council has published proceedings of its scientific symposium at Denver, Colorado, April 20-22, 1976, under the title Shelterbelts on the Great Plains (Council Publication No. 78, 218 pp., 1977). The editor is Richard W. Tinus, Forest Service researcher in charge of the Shelterbelt Laboratory for the northern Great Plains, at Bottineau, North Dakota.

Participants generally endorsed the continuing benefits of shelterbelt plantings and efforts to preserve existing ones and increase the number of such plantings. Members of the organizing committee and those presenting papers included individuals from several State and Federal agencies. Many aspects of producing, planting, and growing selected and improved species, as well as evidence of influences of windbreaks on snow, soil, crops, livestock, wildlife, and homesteads were discussed. The symposium was prompted by reports of extensive windbreak removals by farmers. Among those participating were Ralph Reed and David Van Haverbeke of the Forest Service's Central and Southern Great Plains Forestry Practices Staff at Lincoln, Nebraska; USDA Soil Conservation Service scientists also stationed at Lincoln, who are now in charge of windbreak plantings; men from the Agricultural Research Services; and representatives from the State Extension Service in the Plains States.

Copies of the report are available to interested scientists from the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, 240 W. Prospect Street, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521.

The Shelterbelt project was under the

direction of Paul H. Roberts for the Forest Service from 1934 to 1942. The Soil Conservation Service then took over responsibility to continue it under arrangements with farmers. Mrs. Roberts recently agreed to give her husband's large collection of papers to the Nebraska State Historical Society, including his uncompleted manuscript, "History of the Shelterbelt Projects," consisting of ten chapters and several accounts of various technical developments and experiences in conducting the Project.

Carlos G. Bates, a highly independent pioneer Forest Service field scientist from 1907 to 1949, is remembered for his work in shelterbelt forestry, silvics, and watershed management. He had a long association with Raphael Zon, an early research administrator for the Service. In 1910, Bates wrote his first article on tree planting in the Nebraska sandhills, "Experiments in Sandhill Planting." (His first job with the Forest Service had been at the nursery at Halsey, Nebraska, in the summer of 1906.) He established the Fremont Experiment Station for silvical studies and the Wagon Wheel Gap Site, both in 1909, in Colorado. The Wagon Wheel Gap study was conducted in cooperation with the Weather Bureau to test the effects of forests upon streamflow. His final report on the latter study in 1928 was moderate in contrast to official dogma of earlier years of the Forest Service, according to Richard S. Sartz of the Forest Service's watershed lab at LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Bates had become director of Research in the Rocky Mountain Region in 1924, a year after Zon went to head up the new Lake States Station at St. Paul.

Bates went to Lake States in 1928 where he studied erosion control and stressed prevention of floods by proper upstream land management as opposed to dam-building. From 1934 to 1937 he studied shelterbelt influences for the new Prairie States Forestry Project, returning to the Project as it was being wound up in the early 1940s. In the late 1930s and 1940s, he was in charge of flood control surveys for the Forest Service in an interagency Federal program to reduce floods and prevent flood damage. A personalized account of Bates and his work is given by Sartz in the January 1977 issue of the Journal of Forest History.

Allan J. Soffar summarizes the Shelterbelt Project in "The Forest Shelterbelt Project, 1934-44," an article in the July 1975 issue of Journal of the West. A review of "Shelterbelts in Nebraska" is given by Richard Lowitt, editor of Nebraska History magazine in its Fall 1976 issue. And a profile of "Charles E. Bessey: Land-Grant College Professor," regarded as the "father" of the Nebraska National Forest, the Nation's only all-planted National Forest, was written by Thomas R. Walsh as his doctoral thesis at the University of Nebraska in 1972.

Civilian Conservation Corps.--The decade of the 1970s has shown a great resurgence of interest in the old CCC. Part of the inspiration for the Job Corps and other recent youth programs came from memories of accomplishments of the CCC.

Some developments: A book by Leslie A. Lacy entitled The Soil Soldiers: The Civilian Conservation Corps in the Great Depression. (Chilton Book Company, Radnor, Pennsylvania, 1976, 239 pp.) Except for some photos and a harrative of a New England enrollee, it

leans heavily on the standard book on the CCC, John Salmond's The Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942: A New Deal Case Study, published by Duke University Press in 1967, and other sources.

Kenneth E. Henderson, Jr. contributed a 30-page article on "The Civilian Conservation Corps in Pennsylvania: A Case Study of a New Deal Relief Agency in Operation," published in the January 1976 issue of Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography.

Michael J. Ober wrote the article, "The CCC Experience in Glacier National Park," in the Summer 1976 issue of Montana, Magazine of Western History.

Calvin W. Gower wrote "Conservatism, Censorship, and Controversy" in the Summer 1975 issue of Journalism Quarterly.

James A. Hanson wrote a doctoral dissertation, "The Civilian Conservation Corps in the Northern Rocky Mountains," at the University of Wyoming in 1973.

Barrett G. Potter, now professor of history at Agricultural and Technical College of the State University of New York at Alfred, wrote a doctoral dissertation "The Civilian Conservation Corps in New York State: Its Social and Political Impact (1933-1942)," while at the Buffalo campus in 1973.

Clare Hendee, retired Forest Service Deputy Chief for Administration, is compiling an analysis of the practices of the Forest Service in such basic matters as locating the camps, setting up project work inventories, and planning for future programs for the CCC and Job Corps. He was engaged in such work for the CCC as a forest supervisor in the 1930s, and later in the Washington Office for the Job Corps. He has written a preliminary draft of the development of the Job Corps program.

Charles A. Connaughton, Forest Service retiree, praises the CCC program in his published interview with the Forest History Society. (See the Summer 1976 issue of History Line.) He notes that the Job Corps has a superior feature, training people for specific job skills.

Nancy M. Ouderkirk described CCC woods operations in the Northeast in "The Civilian Conservation Corps: Roosevelt's Robin Hoods," in the May 1975 issue of Northern Logger and Timber Processor.

General Conservation.--There are a number of recent books, reprints, articles, and doctoral dissertations on this subject.

"Man Over Nature: Origins of the Conservation Movement," by John R. Ross, in the Spring 1976 issue of American Studies, compares the ideas of George P. Marsh, John W. Powell, Lester F. Ward, and W.J. McGee.

"Records of a Historic Thrust for Conservation," by Dr. Harold T. Pinkett, in the Summer 1976 issue of Prologue, a periodical of the National Archives, reviews Federal programs of the New Deal years. Dr. Pinkett also wrote an article reviewing men whose contributions to American forestry are not widely known today, for the Journal of Forest History, April 1976. It is entitled, "Some Neglected Trails in Forest History." He mentions such men as Franklin Hough of New York; Abbot Kinney of California; Edgar Ensign and George Parsons of

Colorado; Joseph Rothrock of Pennsylvania; Christopher Andrews of Minnesota; Ernest Bruncken and L.S. Cheney of Wisconsin; and Volney Spaulding, Charles Garfield, and William Beal of Michigan.

Our Landed Heritage: The Public Domain, 1776-1970 by Roy M. Robbins is the second edition, revised and updated, of this book first published in 1942. (University of Nebraska Press, 1976, 503 pages.)

The American Environment: Readings in the History of Conservation is edited by Roderick Nash. (Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Reading, Massachusetts, second edition, 1976, 364 pp.)

"Differing Views on the Gospel of Efficiency: Conservation Controversies between Agriculture and Interior, 1898-1938," is a doctoral thesis by Allan J. Soffar, Texas Technological University, 1974, dealing with disputes affecting the National Forests.

"Congress and the Origins of Conservation: Natural Resource Policies, 1865-1900," is a doctoral thesis by Joseph A. Miller, University of Minnesota, 1973.

Conservation by the People: The History of the Conservation Movement in Ontario to 1970 is by Arthur H. Richardson, edited by A.S.L. Barnes. (University of Toronto Press, 1974, 154 pp.)

"Conservation in Minnesota" by Robert L. Herbst appeared in the March-April 1976 issue of Minnesota Volunteer magazine.

A Panorama of Canadian Forests is by Albert Potvin. (Canadian Forestry Service, Ottawa, 1975, 266 pp., illustrations.)

American Sportsmen and the Origins of Conservation by John F. Reiger, calls the Boone and Crockett Club "the first private organization to deal effectively with conservation issues of national scope." (Winchester Press, New York, 316 pp., 1975.)

The History of Wildlife in America is by Hal Borland. (National Wildlife Federation, Washington, D.C., 1975, 208 pp.)

Southern Forestry.--A review of the development of "Forestry in the Midsouth" under that title by John C. Barber, former Director, Southern Forest Experiment Station, and now Associate Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry for the Forest Service, appeared in the August 1976 issue of Journal of Forestry. He pays tribute to Henry E. Hardtner, founder of the Urania (Louisiana) Lumber Company, as "Father of Forestry in the South." Barber also describes how the pines "came back" after destructive overcutting, and notes the later improvement in forest management by forest industries. He predicts increases in productivity through techniques that protect the quality of the environment.

Belated recognition is given to another pioneer commercial forester in Louisiana, Frank O. (Red) Bateman, chief ranger of the old Great Southern Lumber Company at Bogalusa, by Philip C. Wakeley, retired researcher for the Forest Service at the Southern Forest Experiment Station, in the April 1976 issue of the Journal of Forest History. Bateman's "outstanding contribution to southern forestry" was in forest planting, according to Wakeley, starting in 1919-20. By the end of the 1925-26 planting season, he had successfully planted 12,700 acres of cutover longleaf pine land.

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